

# **Social Justice Events & Opportunities**

as of *Thu Feb 21, 2019*

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## **"Lift the Lamp: Immigrant Stories"**

**Fri Feb 22, 7:30 PM**

**Irvington Town Hall, 85 Main St, Irvington**

America has always been called a melting pot, but what exactly does that mean? Five panelists share their experience of becoming New Americans, including Westchester Refugee Initiative (WRI) Ambassador Reshad Ahmadi. The moderator is FUSW minister Rev. Peggy Clarke. Free and open to the public. Donations accepted, a portion of which will support Hearts and Homes for Refugees and the WRI. Presented by Irvington Town Hall as part of their Diversity Series.

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## **MLK Institute Beloved Community Dinner Potluck**

**Mon Feb 25, 5:30 PM arrival; 6:00 PM dinner**

**Memorial United Methodist Church, 250 Bryant Avenue, White Plains**

Our theme this month is the historical construction of the idea of race, and how we can use our knowledge to challenge structural racism now. We'll share fellowship and great food with participants in Coming Home, the welcoming program for women very recently released from incarceration. Please RSVP to let us know what food you're bringing. If you can't bring food, please plan to donate \$10. [connect@mlkwestchester.org](mailto:connect@mlkwestchester.org)

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## ***25 Prospect Street: The Documentary Film***

**Wed Feb 27, 7:00 PM**

**Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd, Pleasantville**

The Prospector Theater is a non-profit dedicated to providing meaningful employment to adults with disabilities through the operation of a premium, first-run movie theater. Learn more at [prospectortheater.org](http://prospectortheater.org). Prospector was the recipient of CUUC's Variety Show fundraising in 2017. Following the screening of the new documentary will be a Q&A with Prospects. Hosted by Pleasantville Special Education PTA. No admission charge. Must reserve tickets by Fri Feb 22 at [events@pvillesepta.com](mailto:events@pvillesepta.com).

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**“Young, Elected, and Black” Panel Discussion**  
**Thu Feb 28, 7:00 PM**  
**Yonkers Riverfront Library, 1 Larkin Center, Yonkers**

In honor of Black History Month, The Westchester Young Democrats is hosting a sit down with young black elected officials making an impact around Westchester County. Topics include community mobilization; voter turnout; getting more young people involved; personal stories that shape change. Panelists include NYS Senator Jamal T Bailey; Yonkers City Councilwoman Shanae Natalee Williams; Ossining Village Trustee Quantel Bazemore; Westchester County Legislator Christopher A. Johnson; Peekskill City Mayor Andre Rainey.

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**“Islam and Judaism: The Same, Only Different”**  
**Interfaith Conversation and Learning**  
**Thu Feb 28, 7:30-9:00 PM**  
**Woodlands Community Temple, 50 Worthington Rd, White Plains**

Did you know that Abraham is considered the father of Islam as well as the father of Judaism? Come join us for a series of Muslim/Jewish learning opportunities to explore texts shared by both religious traditions. Facilitated by Rabbi Mara Young of WCT. Muslim representatives from the Peace Islands Institute New York share the Quran's version of these narratives. Dessert served. Register: [wct.org/thesameonlydifferent](http://wct.org/thesameonlydifferent).

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**Midnight Run**  
**Fri Mar 1, 7:00 PM**  
**First Unitarian Society, 25 Old Jackson Rd, Hastings-on-Hudson**

Make a difference in the lives of those in need. Come help us prepare food, pack clothes, and distribute and interact with homeless people in NYC. You can also support us with donations of clothing and food. Contact: Art Lowenstein ([arthur.lowenstein@gmail.com](mailto:arthur.lowenstein@gmail.com), 914-844-4189), Annie Patton ([annie.k.patton@gmail.com](mailto:annie.k.patton@gmail.com), 914-588-4782).

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**Sarah Lawrence College Women's History Conference**  
**“The Struggle Continues: Intersectional Activism**  
**in the Age of Gender-Based Violence and Authoritarian Oppression”**  
**Fri Mar 1 & Sat Mar 2**  
**Sarah Lawrence College, 1 Mead Way, Bronxville**

Recent high profile legal battles in the U.S. have brought attention to the problems of sexual assault and violence against women. These concerns are not isolated to the U.S. Movements in India, Kenya, China, and the UK have amplified the voices of victims of individual and

state-sponsored violence. Intersectionality, a term first theorized by feminist activist and legal scholar Kimberlé Crenshaw, was based on the previous work of Black women in organizations such as the Combahee River Collective and the Third World Women's Alliance. It is through Crenshaw's framework that we seek to interrogate global gendered violence, now and in the past. Presented by the Graduate Program in Women's History. Free. Conference registration and information: [sarahlawrence.edu/womens-history/conference](http://sarahlawrence.edu/womens-history/conference)

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### **Undoing Racism Workshops The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond**

*The Mar 18-20 Undoing Racism workshop is closed. A new April workshop has been added.*  
Contact: VCS at 845-842-9114 or [racialjustice@vcs-inc.org](mailto:racialjustice@vcs-inc.org)

### **Weekend Undoing Racism Workshop Friday, Mar 15 – Sunday, Mar 7**

Nyack Public Schools, Central Administration Building, 13 Dickinson Ave, Nyack, NY  
Register [docs.google.com/forms/d/16U9VtksMmqD\\_G1H90MYiz8xL-HSsNWJCycW14SC\\_RJk/viewform?edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/16U9VtksMmqD_G1H90MYiz8xL-HSsNWJCycW14SC_RJk/viewform?edit_requested=true)

### **Weekday Undoing Racism Workshop Monday, Apr 8 – Wednesday, Apr 10**

Stony Point Conference Center, 17 Cricketown Road, Stony Point, NY  
[docs.google.com/forms/d/199J\\_dYtWKI3CbT0q8UviW2gcnyy0F0c9DN0S15CPXEc/viewform?edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/199J_dYtWKI3CbT0q8UviW2gcnyy0F0c9DN0S15CPXEc/viewform?edit_requested=true)

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### **Restorative Practices for Faith Communities Training Sat Mar 16, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM First Unitarian Society of Westchester, Hastings-on-Hudson**

UUA training for lay leaders, youth, and religious professionals that introduces restorative practices to improve our communities' abilities to respond to tension, conflict, hurt, and disagreement. Restorative Practices are grounded in respectful, direct, and honest communication. We especially encourage youth leaders, committees on ministry, and congregation boards to attend. Childcare available. Attendance capped at 40 participants.

Contact Amy Kent (akent@uua.org). Register by March 11 at  
[uua.wufoo.com/forms/zew7bn61r34jdf/](https://uua.wufoo.com/forms/zew7bn61r34jdf/)

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**Petition: The Department of Justice must immediately drop all charges against UU Volunteer and respect the right of volunteers to freely practice their faith by caring for migrants on the border.**

The administration is pursuing felony criminal charges against Scott Warren, a volunteer with the “No More Deaths” ministry of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson, which provides water, food, socks, blankets, and emergency first-aid to migrants along the US-Mexico border. Learn more at [theguardian.com/global/2018/jan/26/scott-warren-no-more-death-arrested-migrants-water](https://theguardian.com/global/2018/jan/26/scott-warren-no-more-death-arrested-migrants-water)). Find the petition at [act.faithfulamerica.org/sign/scott\\_warren?referring\\_akid=.558144.6xwLrq&source=taf](https://act.faithfulamerica.org/sign/scott_warren?referring_akid=.558144.6xwLrq&source=taf)

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## **League of Women Voters of the Rivertowns Special Action Request - Contact your Representatives and Governor**

We affirm support for the NY election law reforms passed by our legislators. Our League and other organizations have worked for years to support these reforms, and we appreciate the courage and conviction of our elected officials in passing these laws.

While there is more work to be done on election law reform, even these hard-fought gains are at risk because the Governor did not provide implementation funding in his budget. Please see this [summary](#) from the NY State League of Women Voters for more detail on the reforms that passed, and estimated budgetary costs.

We ask that you send the following email, with whatever edits you would like to make, to your State senator, assemblyperson, and the Governor. You can find your senator [here](#), your assemblyperson [here](#), and can contact the Governor [here](#)

### *Suggested Email or Letter Content*

Dear [name of your State senator, assemblyperson or Governor Cuomo]:

Thank you for passing a number of landmark New York State election law reforms. While these measures represent exciting progress in allowing citizens to exercise their right to vote, they must be funded in the budget to become reality. I am concerned that lack of funding may result in lack of access that could, in turn, lead to a false conclusion that New Yorkers do not support these critical voting reforms. I urge you to include the necessary funds to support implementation of these laws in the NY State budget while continuing to work on additional vital reforms.

The New York State League of Women Voters projects the cost of early voting in the 2019 general election to be \$9,327,500. The League estimates that a matched investment of \$9.3 million will cover the cost of necessary software upgrades and new election equipment. There are additional funds that will be necessary to ensure cyber security that must also be included in the budget.

Thank you again for your work on passing early voting and other critical election law reforms. I now simply ask that the budget allow these laws to become reality.

Signed,  
[name and address]